

**Administration on Aging
and
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services**

Aging and Disability Resource Center Grant Program

Organization Name: New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services

Project Title: NJ EASE Aging & Disability Resource Center

Total Project Period: 9/30/2003 – 9/29/2006

Total Award Amount: \$798,041

Project Contact: Nancy Day, (609) 943-3429

Project's Overall Design:

New Jersey will establish two to three Aging & Disability Resource Centers at the county level to test the development and implementation of models that will integrate information and assistance, assessment, eligibility determination, and access processes and staff across programs. New Jersey will build on its extensive information, assistance and referral system (NJ EASE) to provide information and assistance 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year through its toll-free number and a new interactive website. A new management information system that supports client tracking, needs assessment, care plans, and utilization will be linked to a computerized universal application for services.

Target Population:

- Year One – Persons 60 and older
- Year Two & Three – Persons 60 and older and individuals with physical disabilities
- A special focus will be on hard-to-serve and underserved populations

Anticipated Outcomes:

- The Resource Center will be a visible, responsive, and trusted sole source for home and community-based services and available 24/7/365 by building on NJ EASE.
- The Resource Center will be a gateway that connects consumers to a full array of public and private supportive services to assist them in tailoring a care program that best meets their needs through a seamless process.
- The Resource Center will provide automated mechanisms for accurately tracking consumer utilization and service costs, providing a comprehensive resource library, aiding in the development of needs assessments and care plans,

providing related eligibility and financial documents, and real-time in-process performance indicators.

Involvement of Stakeholders and Community Based Organizations:

- Advisory Committee: existing Real Choice Systems Change Advisory Board will be expanded to include older adults, people with disabilities, rep from AAAs, rep from County Welfare Agencies, rep from NJ Commission on Aging, rep from HealthEASE Council, rep from Cultural Competency Committee, and rep from hcbs providers. Special taskforces will be developed and advisory board members assigned: performance standards, comprehensive assessment tool, program/policy alignment, information technology, and model design.
- Partners: Division of Aging and Community Services, Division of Disability Services, and Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services of the Department of Health and Senior Services.